

**A B S T R A C T****Title: Methods**

5 This invention relates to polymorphisms in the human pyruvate dehydrogenase complex E2 (PDH E2 or PDC E2) gene and corresponding novel allelic polypeptides encoded thereby. The invention also relates to methods and materials for analysing allelic variation in the PDH E2 gene, and to the use of PDH E2 polymorphism in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases in which modulation of pyruvate dehydrogenase activity could be of therapeutic  
10 benefit, such as diabetes, asthma, obesity, sepsis and peripheral vascular disease. In particular, the invention is based on the discovery of two single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in the coding region of the human PDH E2 gene.

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